

program; and creating a part-time, temporary workforce of credentialed teachers to support struggling learners through the Response to Intervention program.

He credits former superintendents Glenn Burdick and Dennis Kellison as his mentors along the way.

Despite his employment in the division for 34 years, Leonard doesn't think he's changed. He says he still talks way too fast and veins still pop out on his neck when he believes in something strongly, such as making sure all students have a chance to be successful.

"I still have the same drive and belief in all students," he said.

Craig said his colleague's ability to make thoughtful decisions and to be active and decisive is unchanged, but his perspective has expanded.

"He thinks on almost a global perspective with the schools," he said. "Now he has the vision to be able to see the whole system and the challenges that could come later on."

Lynda Hickey, director of the instruction department, said Leonard always stayed the course in promoting the school's mission and vision of learning for all, challenged the staff members to be the best they could be and made students the heart of every decision.

Leonard's executive assistant Bonnie Stickley has worked with him for five years. She considers him a class act, funny and positive.

"I'm going to miss him," she said. "Not just as a boss, but as a friend."

Leonard said no single reason has spurred him to retire.

"I'm running out of energy," he said. "I want to leave at a time when my heart is still full of what my life's work has been: helping children, helping the next generation."

Leonard said he might eventually like to teach in higher education or help to run a small business in the private sector, but first he will spend a lot of time in waders.

"The first thing I'll do is fish for a while," he said. "And exercise a lot. Then I'll get back in the game. I just haven't decided what game that's going to be yet."

"For me, it's not necessarily retirement. It's more of a sabbatical."

Leonard and his wife Patty have three sons.

#### HONORING ARAGON, GEORGIA ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS CHARTERING

##### HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 10, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Aragon. Lying in the Coosa Valley of Northwest Georgia, in Polk County, Aragon was founded in 1899 as a mill site. The city of Aragon is a small, but hard working group of families who are proud of their heritage.

Whether it was named for the Hotel Aragon located on Peachtree Street in Atlanta, Georgia, where some of the Mill owners stayed when visiting the area, or whether it was named for the mineral aragonite that was mined nearby, the city of Aragon has been home to many dedicated men and women for over 115 years, even as the town has changed.

In recent years, even in the aftermath of the mill's destruction by fire in 2002, the people of Aragon have committed to remaining a city. It

is with this commitment that they commemorate July 23, 2014, as the 100th anniversary of their city charter being adopted, and then approved by Georgia's 60th Governor, John Slaton.

One hundred years later, Aragon's future shines brightly. This is not a city resting on its laurels after tragedy, but a city ready to meet tomorrow's challenges head on, remaining true to its motto "A Proud Past With A Promising Future".

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 10, 2014*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, due to a death in my family, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 355, "yea."

On rollcall No. 356, "yea."

On rollcall No. 357, "nay."

On rollcall No. 358, "nay."

On rollcall No. 359, "yea."

#### HONORING JACQUE JOHANNES

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 10, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Jacque Johannes who is retiring after 27 years as a Department of Defense civilian with the United States Air Force.

She received an Associate of Arts in Education from Cloud County Community College in Concordia, Kansas, in 1975 and her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas in 1977.

That same year, she married Don Johannes and began traveling the world and working for the DoD as the spouse of an active duty Air Force member. For her first jobs she worked as a substitute teacher in the Denver Public Schools system and then as a cashier for the base commissary.

In 1979, she moved with her husband to Hellenikon Athens, Greece and worked as a substitute teacher for the DoD schools and eventually as a clerk for the Hellenikon AFB Child Development Center.

In 1982, she moved again with her spouse to Grand Forks AFB in North Dakota where Jacque worked for the base commissary as a cashier. In 1984, she and her family moved to Little Rock, Arkansas and this is where she found her most rewarding career working with young children.

In 1988, she began teaching preschool for the evening classes at the Little Rock AFB Child Development Center. The next year, she became a full time preschool teacher and taught three and four year olds in the Air Force Preschool. In 1997, she became the first USDA/Resource & Referral for the Family Child Care (FCC) Program.

In 2000, Jacque was hired as the junior FCC Coordinator and during this time helped

to win the provider of the year for 2004. In 2005, she took over the lead coordinator's position and with the help of her fellow Coordinator, Jill Lund, she was able to train and establish the first three National Family Child Care (NAFCC) Accredited FCC providers at Little Rock AFB.

During her years as coordinator, Jacque's program was selected to be a test base for the Mildly Ill Program and the new AF Expanded Child Care Programs.

In 2007, with the hard work and dedication of Jacque, the FCC Program won AETC FCC Program of the Year for the first time since the inception of the child care programs at Little Rock AFB. When the program was under the AETC Majcom, Jacque was asked by AETC staff to mentor new providers.

She would also work closely with fellow coordinators from other bases to gain new ideas or find better ways to improve the FCC program at Little Rock.

Jacque has a love of music and especially enjoys singing. She is a member of Park Hill Christian Church Chancel Choir and also performs solos for special music functions and serves as Chairman of the Trustees for PHCC as well as serving on the Church Cabinet and Church Board. She is also a member of the Arkansas Chorale Society (ACS) where she sings in the Messiah and their spring concerts. During these concerts she has provided various solos. Jacque previously served on the Board of Directors for the ACS and as a judge for the Arkansas Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year in Little Rock.

Jacque sat on the planning committees for the annual Spring Family Fun festivals and the 4th of July celebrations. She along with her providers would have a game/information booth at the Fun Festival each year.

Jacque lives with her husband Don in Cabot, AR. Her children and grandchildren are the lights of her life. Jacque's sons, Josh and wife Jennifer along with their children Holt and Violet reside in Sherwood, and son Chris and wife Leah along with their children Aliden and Ava reside in North Little Rock. Her daughter Amanda and husband SSgt. Kevin Schroeder along with Amanda's daughter Aislinn Grubb are stationed in Geilenkirchen, Germany. Jacque also has a step-grandaughter, Sylvia Schroeder, who resides in Manhattan, KS.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Jacque Johannes for her years of dedication and hard work.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

##### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 10, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,596,427,039,854.56. We've added \$6,969,549,990,941.48 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.